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INFORMATION FROM
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REPORT

50X1-HUM

CD NO.

COUNTRY Communist China

SUBJECT Transportation - Rail, water

HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspaper

WHERE PUBLISHED Hong Kong

DATE PUBLISHED 4 - 9 Dec 1949

LANGUAGE Chinese

DATE OF INFORMATION 1949

DATE DIST. 20 Jan 1950

NO. OF PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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SOURCE Wen-hui Pao.

ANNOUNCES RR PASSENGER, BAGGAGE REGULATION;
COMMUNICATIONS IMPROVE IN CENTRAL CHINA

NEW RR REGULATIONS EFFECTIVE -- Wen-hui Pao, 4 Dec 49

Kuang-chou, 2 December -- The following railroad passenger and freight regulations, which became effective on 1 December 1949, were recently promulgated by the Ministry of Railroads of the Central People's government.

1. Railroad tickets will be divided into regular, express, group, and half-fare tickets. The group ticket will entitle 20 or more persons to travel as a group while the half-fare ticket will be sold to children from the ages of 7 to 12. No fare will be charged for children below the age of 6 if they are accompanied by a paid passenger, but if the number is in excess of three, one half-fare ticket will be required for each additional child.
2. Accommodations will be divided into first, second, and third classes. The rates of first-class and second-class accommodations shall be three and two times, respectively, the rate of third-class accommodations.
3. No charge will be made for carrying the following items aboard the train: baggage weighing less than 20 kilograms and not exceeding 0.2 cubic meter in size; small arms and ammunitions accompanied by a permit; up to 50 sticks of matches; one kilogram or less of alcohol for medicinal use; oil cloth and paper for use during the trip; birds, insects and fish in cages or containers; domestic animals or fowls not in excess of four. The following items are forbidden aboard the train: military weapons and explosives, large packages which might block the aisles, breakable and inflammable articles, films, and malodorous items.
4. Excess personal baggage must be forwarded through the baggage department. Up to 50 kilograms of excess personal baggage for adult tickets and 30 kilograms for half-fare tickets may be shipped through the baggage department at a rate of 9.10 yuan per kilogram for every 10 kilometers. However, any baggage exceeding the above limitations will be charged for at the rate 11.35 yuan per kilogram for every 10 kilometers. The maximum weight of personal baggage will be limited to 100 kilograms, and the packages must not be more than 2 meters long or 0.5 cubic meter in size. The following articles will be prohibited from being sent as personal baggage: corpses, animals, carts, musical instruments, portraits, machinery, surveying equipment, scales, and measuring instruments.

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5. Tickets will be valid for 2 days if the destination is less than 200 kilometers distant. For each additional 200 kilometers, the period of validity will be extended one day.

6. Passengers will be permitted to detrain before reaching their destinations but they will be required to complete their trip before the expiration date of the ticket.

COMMUNICATIONS ALMOST NORMAL -- Wen-hui Pao, 8 Dec 49

Han-k'ou, 7 December (NCNA) -- About 12,300 kilometers of highways in Honan, Hupeh, Hunan, and Kiangsi provinces have been repaired and are now open for traffic. It is also reported that water transportation, telecommunications, and postal services of these four provinces are nearly back to normal operations.

With the exception of a section of the Han-k'ou--Kuang-chou Railroad, it is said that the six main railroad lines of this area, including Lien-yun--Lan-chou, Pei-p'ing--Han-k'ou, Han-k'ou--Kuang-chou, Kuang-chou--P'ing-hsiang, Han-ch'ang--Chiu-chiang, and Chu-chou--Kuei-yang--Kuei-lin lines, are now open for traffic and trains are running on regular schedules.

Water transportation facilities were damaged considerably by the retreating Nationalists in this area. However, rapid progress has been made in restoring these facilities and it is reported that there are now more than 2,500 river boats navigating along the Ch'ang Chiang, Han Sui, Hsian Chiang, Yuan Chiang, and Kan Chiang. These boats carry 14,980,000 tons of cargo and more than 660,000 passengers every 6 months.

CH'U-CHOU--KUEI-LIN RAILROAD REOPENED -- Wen-hui Pao, 9 Dec 49

Pei-p'ing, 8 December (NCNA) -- The Ch'u-chou--Kuei-lin Railroad extending 180 kilometers between Fen-yang and Tung-an was reopened on 4 December 1949. In addition, the Ta-t'ung--Feng-ling-tu Railroad extending 400 kilometers from T'ai-yuan to Yun-ch'eng and the line between Huang-hou-yuan and P'ing-sha were reopened during the early part of this month.

REPAIRS ON PEI-P'ING--HAN-K'OU LINE -- Wen-hui Pao, 4 Dec 49

K'ai-feng, 2 December (NCNA) -- The Kuang-chou Railroad Bureau reported that minor repairs which were undertaken on 1 November 1949 on the Pei-p'ing--Han-k'ou and Lien-yun--Lan-chou Railroad lines have almost been completed. It is said that the trains on these lines are now able to travel at a speed of about 50 kilometers per hour.

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